

Message Text

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ORIGIN ARA-06

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 /021 R

DRAFTED BY ARA/PAN:ENADEAU

APPROVED BY ARA/PAN:ENADEAU

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P 262119Z OCT 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY PANAMA PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 263958

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PN

SUBJECT: ARA/PAN ACTIVITIES

FOR MINISTER BELL FROM NADEAU

1. REGRET I HAVE NOT KEPT YOU PERIODICALLY INFORMED ON ACTIVITIES AT OUR END AS AGREED. IN GENERAL, WORK HAS BEEN ROUTINE WITH REALLY NO SIGNIFICANT MEDIA COVERAGE OR INQUIRIES TO ARA/PAN ON THE NEGOTITIONS.

2. WE HAVE BEEN FULLY OCCUPIED BECAUSE OF OUR SHORT STAFF. THE MARIJUANA BOAT PROBLEM TOOK MORE TACKS AND JIBES AND IN THE PROCESS ABSORBED MORE OF OUR TIME THAN I CARE TO REPORT. DESPITE OUR EFFORTS, I THOUGHT THE "DON EMILIO" WAS GOING TO FOUNDER FROM THE COMBINED WEIGHT AND CONFLICTING RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE VARIOUS U.S. AGENCIES INVOLVED. THAT IT IS STILL ON SOME COURSE -- EXTRADITION -- IS DUE TO EMBASSY AND GOP'S EXCELLENT RESPONSIVENESS. A LETTER EXPRESSING APPRECIATION IS SURELY IN ORDER IF THIS WORKS OUT.

3. RE YOUR DISCUSSIONS WITH EMBASSY, PANAMA 7225 --
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RECEIVED AFTER YOU DEPARTED -- IS AN EXCELLENT ANALYSIS

OF PANAMA'S ECONOMIC PRBLEMS. I HOPE YOU WILL HAVE A
CHANCE TO DISCUSS IT DURING REMAINDER OF WEEK. ALSO,
HELLER CALLED TODAY TO SEE IF YOU HAD BEEN ABLE TO TAKE UP
BOSTON/PANAMA PROBLEM. IF THERE HAS NOT BEEN OPPORTUNITY,
PERHAPS YOU COULD ARRANGE TO HAVE EMBASSY FOLLOW UP. KISSINGER

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